

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Request of	)	DOCKET UG-090528
	)	
CASCADE NATURAL GAS	)	ORDER 01
CORPORATION,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
For Less Than Statutory Notice in	)	STATUTORY NOTICE; ALLOWING
Connection with Tariff Revisions	)	TARIFF REVISIONS
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On April 10, 2009, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation, (Cascade or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a revision to reduce the gas cost deferral amortization for core rate schedules as set forth in Tariff WN U-3, designated as Temporary Technical Adjustment, Schedule No. 595.
  
- 2 [RCW 80.28.060](#) and [WAC 480-80-121](#) require thirty days’ notice to customers prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheet bears an effective date of May 11, 2009. This date recognizes the required 30-day statutory notice. The Company requests, however, less than statutory notice as permitted by [WAC 480-80-122](#), and that the revision becomes effective May 1, 2009. Cascade requests less than statutory notice because the Company believes that reducing the rate is appropriate due to changing conditions since the Company’s 2008 Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) filing.
  
- 3 Higher natural gas volumes due to colder weather have helped to reduce the outstanding deferral balances at a faster rate than originally anticipated and natural gas prices have fallen to lower levels than anticipated.
  
- 4 Since the proposed tariff revision appears to be fair, just, reasonable and sufficient, and less than statutory notice is consistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the Commission grant Cascade ’s request with an effective date of May 1, 2009.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates,

regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including gas companies. [RCW 80.01.040](#), [RCW 80.04](#), [RCW 80.08](#), [RCW 80.12](#), [RCW 80.16](#) and [RCW 80.28](#).

- 6 (2) Cascade is a gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 7 (3) Cascade is subject to [RCW 80.28.060](#) and [WAC 480-80-121](#), which require gas companies to file changes in any rate or charges with thirty days' notice. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may allow changes without requiring thirty days notice by order specifying the changes to be made and the time when it shall take effect. [RCW 80.28.060](#) and [WAC 480-80-122](#).
- 8 (4) Staff has reviewed Cascade's request in Docket UG-090528 and recommends the Commission grant the Company's request for less than statutory notice.
- 9 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 30, 2009.
- 10 (6) After reviewing Cascade's proposed tariff revision filed on April 10, 2009, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revision should become effective May 1, 2009.

## ORDER

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) Cascade Natural Gas Corporation's request for less than statutory notice is granted.
- 12 (3) The tariff revisions Cascade Natural Gas Corporation filed on April 10, 2009, will be effective on May 1, 2009.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective April 30, 2009.

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman**

**PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner**